

T-229
Rich Bottom
7103 Dover Neck Road
Easton Vicinity
Ca. 1790 & ca. 1900-1960
Private

Note: This appends the MHT survey form for T-229 written in 1977 for the Rich Bottom residence.

The farm located at 7103 Dover Neck Road and known as "Rich Bottom" is located on 341.80 acres of land to the east of Easton in Talbot County. The parcel is located across Dover Neck Road from the Seth Demonstration Forest and contains six buildings and structures. The structures include a residence, a shed/smokehouse, a tool shed, a machine shed, a barn, and a grain elevator.

Rich Bottom is a representative example of a nineteenth-century farm with twentieth century improvements. The property known as Rich Bottom was one of several tracts of land purchased by Robert L. Kemp, Robert K. Startt, and others in 1913 from the estate of Edmund L. F. Hardcastle whose property had been divided and sold after his death. Hardcastle owned multiple tracts of land in the area which contained houses, indicating that the property may have been operated as a tenant farm in the nineteenth century. The tract containing Rich Bottom passed from Robert K. Startt to Lemmon C. Elliott, L. Leonia Elliott, and Mary E. Elliott. The property remained in the Elliott family until 1963, when it was purchased at auction by Roy G. and Anne C. Brooks.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-229

1. Name of Property

historic Rich Bottom

other

2. Location

street and number 7103 Dover Neck Road N/A not for publication

city, town Easton X vicinity

county Talbot

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Roy G. and Anne C. Brooks

street and number 5991 Canterbury Drive telephone 410-822-4624

city, town Easton state MD zip code 21601

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 387 folio 319

city, town Easton tax map 43/9 tax parcel 47 tax ID number 029657

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- ☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- ☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- ☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- ☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- ☒ Other: Previous MHT Inventory of Historic Properties Form

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	4
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	1
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	5
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	1
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	1
			1

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

1

7. Description

Inventory No. T-229

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Summary Description

The farm located at 7103 Dover Neck Road and known as "Rich Bottom" is located on 341.80 acres of land to the east of the community of Easton in Talbot County, Maryland. The parcel is located across Dover Neck Road from the Seth Demonstration Forest and contains six structures. The structures include a residence, a shed/smokehouse, a tool shed, a machine shed, a barn, and a grain elevator.

Rich Bottom (residence only) was originally surveyed in April 1977 by Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant with the Maryland Historical Trust.

The main residence is an mid-nineteenth century, one-and-a-half story, vernacular wood frame structure. A two-story wood frame side addition was constructed in the late nineteenth century. The residence is located adjacent to the agriculture buildings and is the oldest building on the property.

The residence is located approximately one-quarter-mile down a straight access road with the agricultural buildings located along the access road, and the residence at the end of the access road. The outbuildings are arranged in a linear plan along the road. The property is surrounded by cultivated agricultural fields. The gravel access road is flanked by two brick columns. The southernmost column is inscribed with the words "RICH/BOTTOM/1924." The columns have metal hinges attached, indicating that the property was once gated.

Smokehouse, ca. 1900

In addition to the previously surveyed residence, there is a smokehouse, built ca. 1900, with a shed addition on its northeast elevation located in the agricultural area. The building is a one-story timber frame structure with an undivided interior space. The smokehouse rests on a continuous brick foundation and is clad with beaded horizontal siding. The pyramidal roof has wide overhanging eaves and a metal ventilator. The roof is clad with corrugated standing-seam metal. The building is entered through a hinged wood plank door on the southeast façade. One nine-pane wood hopper sash is located on each of the remaining façades. There is an exterior brick masonry chimney. The side addition was constructed ca. 1930 as a shed. The addition rests on a continuous poured concrete foundation. The walls are clad with board and batten siding and the building has a side gable roof clad with corrugated standing-seam metal. The addition is entered through a sliding wood plank door on the southeast façade. Five six-pane wood hopper sashes are located around the building.

Tool Shed, ca. 1945

The tool shed, constructed ca. 1945, is a one-story masonry structure. The building rests on a poured concrete slab and is constructed of concrete masonry units. The side gable roof is clad with corrugated standing-seam metal. The building is entered through a large hinged plywood panel door on the southwest façade. The building has eight two-over-two metal sash windows.

Machinery Shed, date unknown

The machinery shed is five bays wide with an open southeast façade. The timber frame shed rests on a combination pier and continuous poured concrete foundation. The walls are clad with corrugated standing-seam metal. The side gable roof is clad with standing-seam metal. There are no doors or windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor. There is a rear shed roof addition open on both the southwest and northeast façades to allow for additional machinery storage.

Barn, ca. 1910

The barn is a one-story, three bay timber frame structure with a crib addition. The barn rests on a brick pier foundation with poured concrete footers used as the crib foundation. The building is clad with corrugated standing-seam metal. The shed roof crib portion of the building is clad with vertical wood boards. The building has a side gable roof, which is clad

Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. T-229

Rich Bottom
Continuation Sheet

Number 7 Page 1

with corrugated metal. The building is accessed through sliding metal doors on the southwest façade. There are no windows. The interior of the building is unfinished with an earthen floor. The rear portion of the barn has been altered to accommodate modern farm machinery.

Grain Elevator, ca. 1970

The grain elevator is a non-historic steel structure connecting five grain bins. There are three small and two large grain bins. All are located on a poured concrete slab and have a steel frame. The bins are clad with corrugated metal and have conical roofs clad with standing-seam metal. Grain is inserted into the grain bins through metal hatches.

8. Significance

Inventory No. T-229

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates	1850; 1920-1939; 1946-1960	Architect/Builder	unknown
Construction dates	ca. 1850 & ca. 1900-1970		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Summary Statement of Significance

Rich Bottom is representative example of a nineteenth-century farm with twentieth century improvements, specifically from the Post-War Recession, the Great Depression, and the New Deal (1920-1939) and the Post-War Boom and Industrialization of the Farm (1946-1960) agricultural periods. When the residence was surveyed in 1977, it was noted as being significant due to its rarity as an example of nineteenth century vernacular architecture in Talbot County and having potential as a comparison property for future surveys.

Historical Background

Rich Bottom farm was one of several tracts of land purchased by Edmund L. F. Hardcastle in the 1860s and 1870s. Hardcastle owned multiple tracts of land in the area which contained houses making it unclear exactly who Hardcastle purchased the property was from. It is likely that Hardcastle operated the property as a tenant farm in the nineteenth century until his death c. 1912. At that time, the Hardcastle estate was divided and the various tracts were sold. The Rich Bottom tract was purchased by Robert L. Kemp, Robert K. Startt, and others in 1913. The tract containing Rich Bottom passed from Robert K. Startt to Lemmon C. Elliott, L. Leonia Elliott, and Mary E. Elliott in 1936. The relationship between Startt and the Elliotts is unclear. The property remained in the Elliott family until 1963, when it was purchased at auction by Roy G. and Anne C. Brooks. It is currently an active grain-producing farm.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. T-229

- Lanier, Gabrielle M. and Bernard L. Herman. *Everyday Architecture of the Mid-Atlantic: Looking at Buildings and Landscapes*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.
- Nobel, Allen G. and Richard K. Cleek. *The Old Barn Book*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1997.
- Rawson, Richard. *Old Barn Plans*. New York: Bonanza Books, 1979.
- Talbot County Land Records
- Weeks, Christopher. *Where Land and Water Intertwine: An Architectural History of Talbot County, Maryland*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1984.
- Whitaker, James H. *Agricultural Buildings and Structures*. Reston, Va.: Reston Publishing Co., 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 341.80

Acreage of historical setting 341.80

Quadrangle name Trappe, MD Quadrangle scale: 1: 24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the surveyed property is marked as current boundary as described on Talbot County Tax Map 43, Grid 9, Parcel 47. The existing Parcel portion is concurrent with the historic setting, and includes character-defining resources and setting which relate to the property's construction and evolution.

11. Form Prepared by

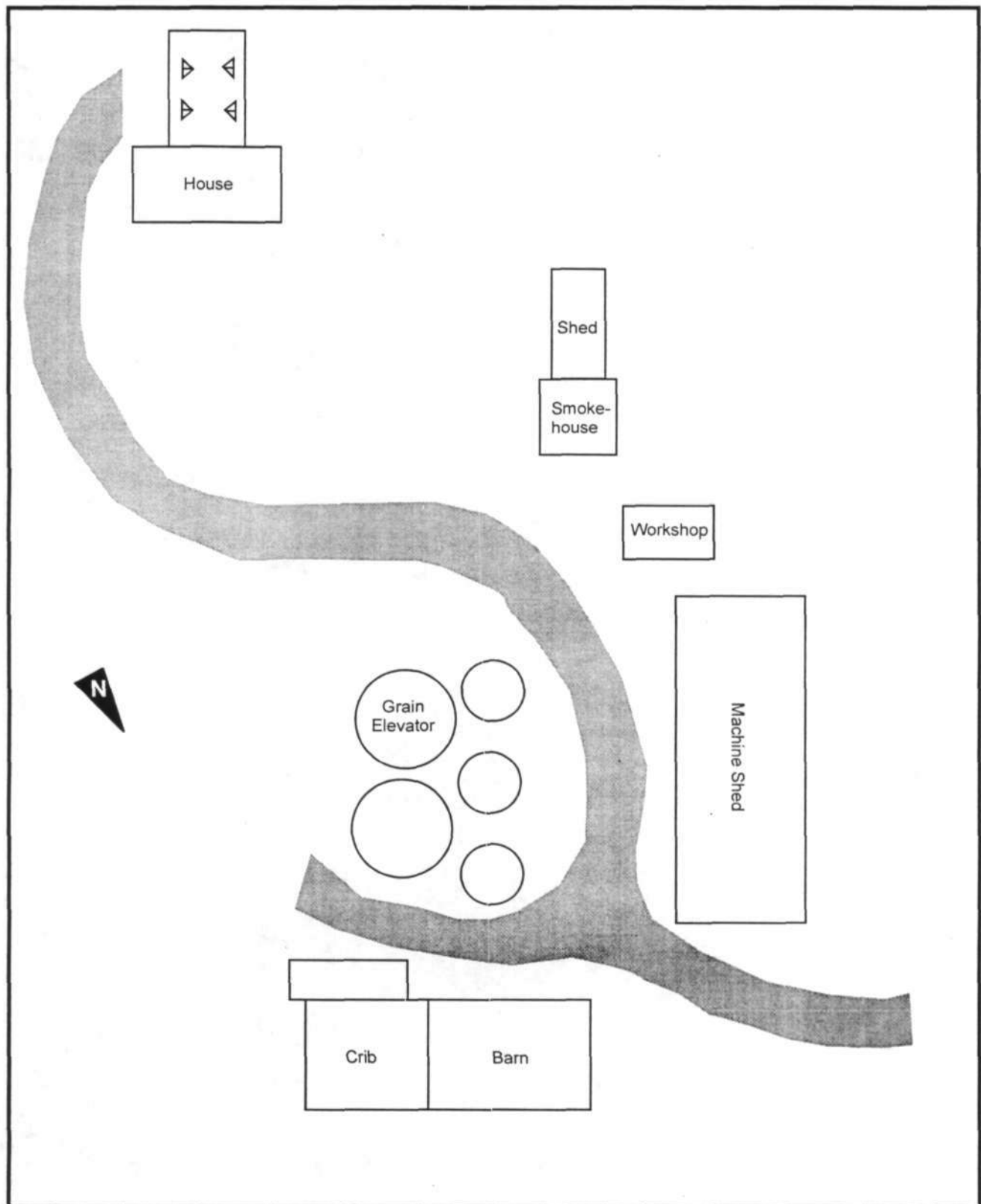
name/title	Amy Barnes, Architectural Historian		
organization	URS Corporation	date	12-08-03
street & number	7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700	telephone	301.652.2215
city or town	Bethesda	state	MD 20814

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

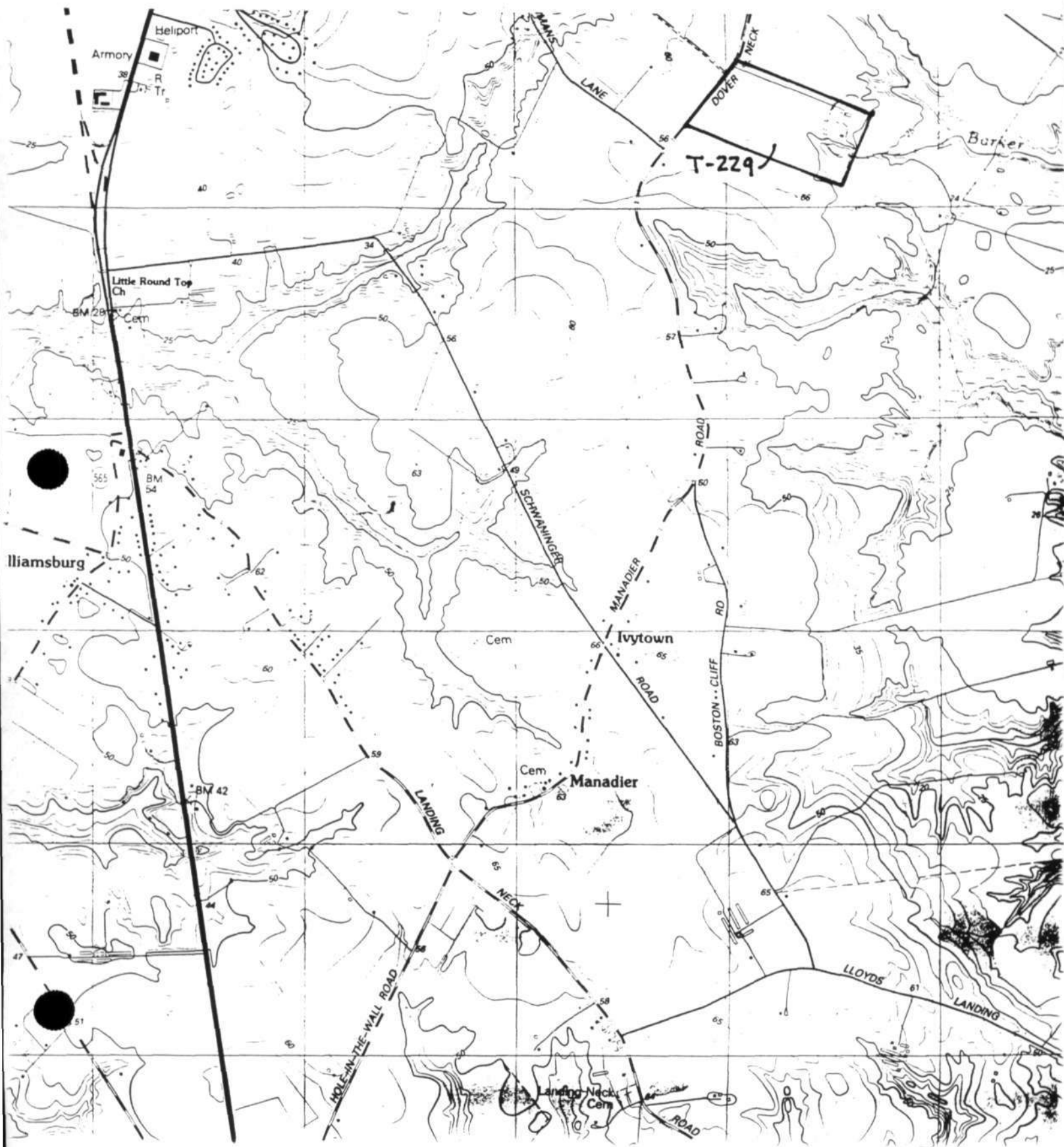
The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

T-229
Rich Bottom
7103 Dover Neck Road
Talbot County
Site Plan - 2003



T-229
Rich Bottom
Trappe, MD USGS Quad (1: 24,000)





I-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

M. Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

Smokehouse and shed looking S

1/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

M. Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

Smoke house + SHED Looking N

2/20



T-229

Rich Bottom
Talbot Co. MD

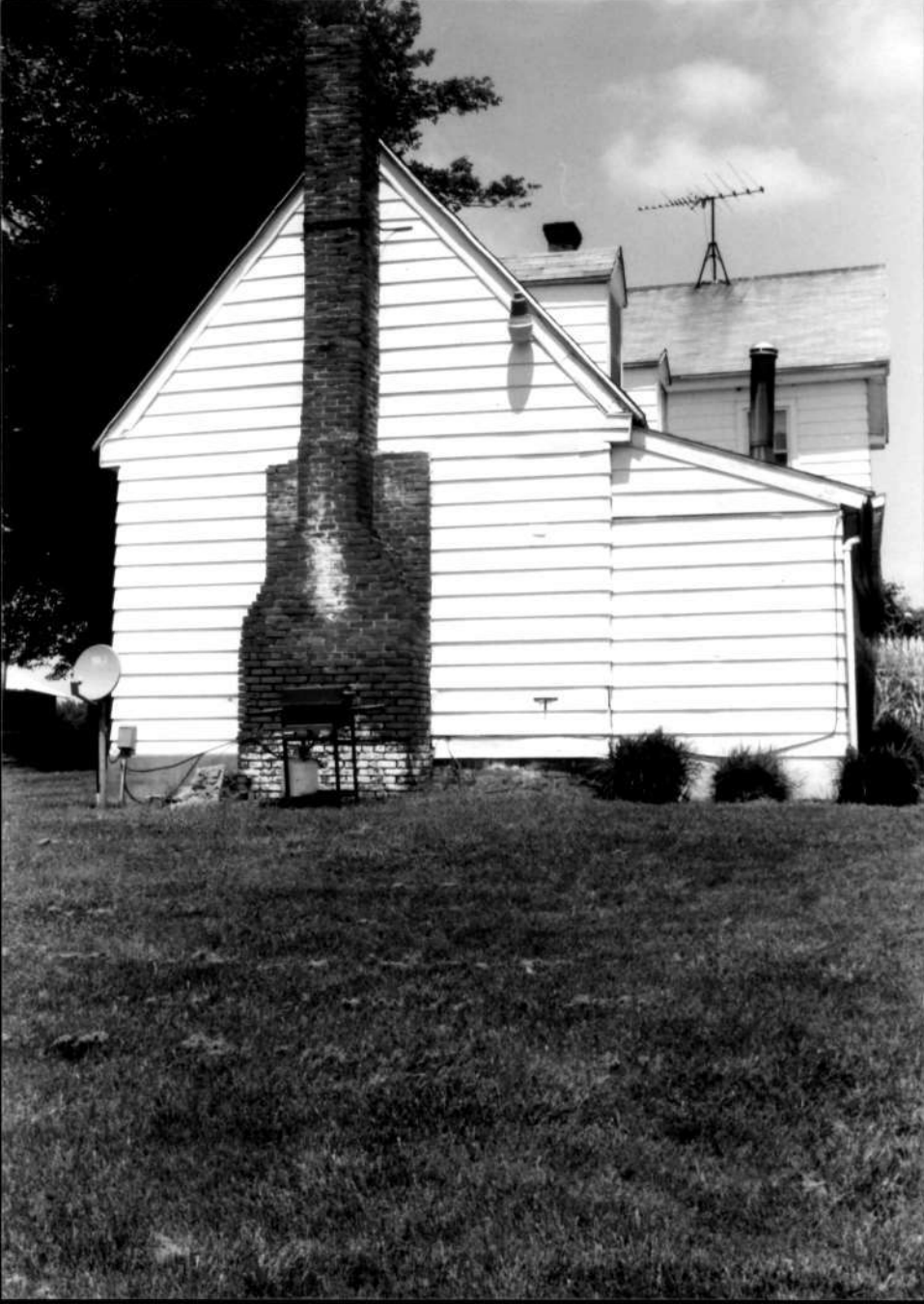
M. Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

House looking E

3/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

M. EDWARDS

7/15/03

MD SHPO

House - side facade looking NE

4/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

7/15/53

MD SHPO

House + granaries being W

5/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

N. EDWARDS

7/15/23

MD SHPO

House Rear facade looking N

6/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

M. Edwards

7/15/23

MD SHPD

Machinery shed + granaries looking N

7/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

Elevator Detail looking N

8/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

M EDWARDS

7/13/03

112 SHRO

Elevator Detail looking N

9/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

M. EDWARDS

7/15/03

MD SHPO

House looking SW

10/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

M. Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

Barn + crib looking N

11/29



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. MD

M EDWARDS

7/15/03

MD SHFO

Crib gable end looking NW

12/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. MD

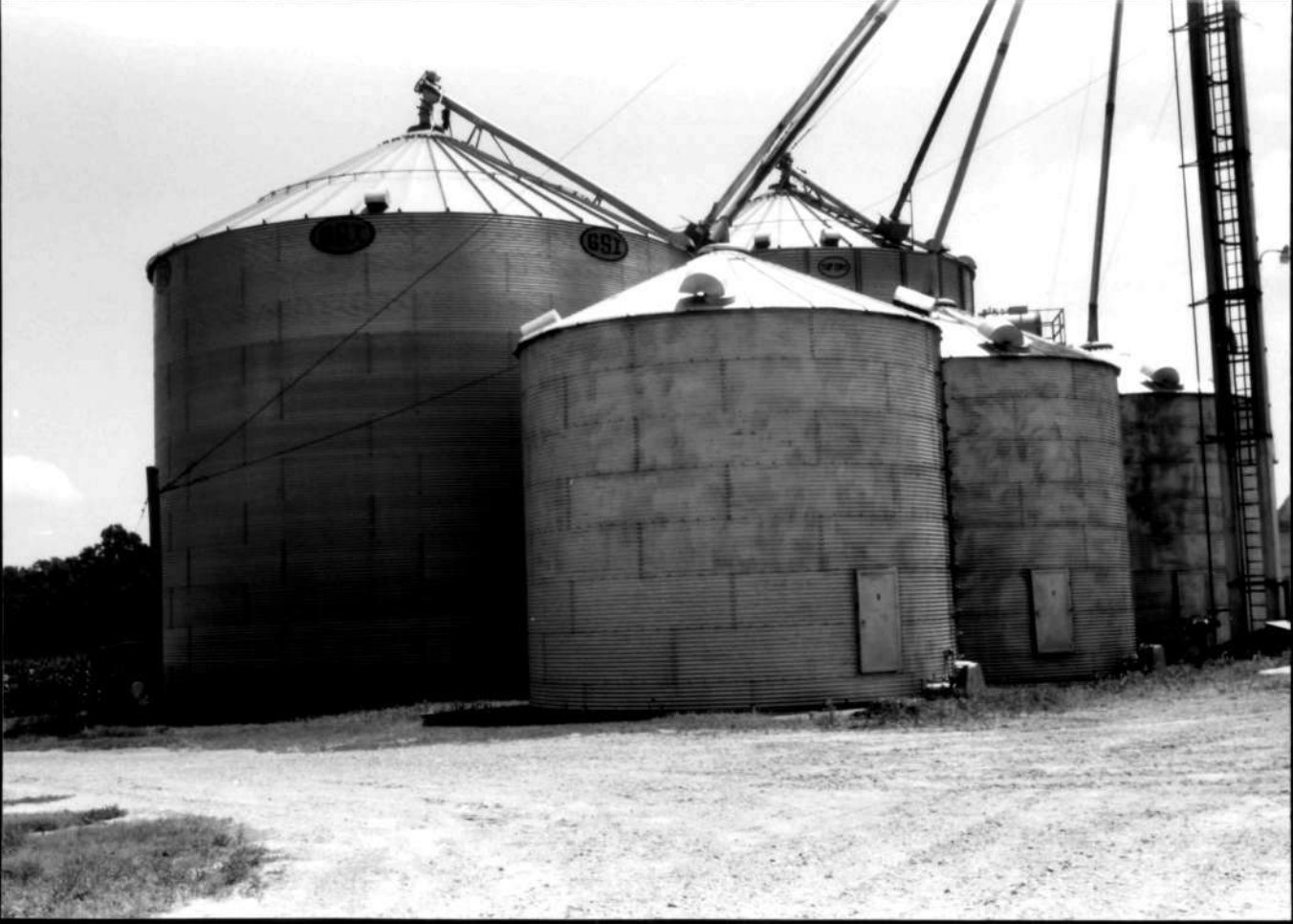
M Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

Machinery shed looking SW

13/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co., MD

M Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPD

Graneries looking SE

14/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. P.M.

H. Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

BARN looking E

15/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. XID

M. Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

Machinery Shed Hooky NE

16/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. MD

M. Edwards

7/15/03

MD SHPO

Smokehouse + Shovel look -

17/20



T-229

Rich Bottom
Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

MD SHPO

complex looking &
18/20



T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. MD

M. EDWARDS

12/15/03

MD SHPO

Sign post looking E

19/20



RICH
BOTTON
1924

T-229

Rich Bottom

Talbot Co. MD

M EDWARDS

7/15/03

MD SHPO

Sign Post looking E

20/20

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

21 02295304
T-229

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Rich Bottom Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Dover Neck Rd., 2 miles south of Dover Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Talbot

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Roy B. Brooks, Sr.

Telephone #:(301) 822-4624

STREET & NUMBER

Canterbury Road

CITY, TOWN

Easton

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21601

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Talbot County Courthouse

Liber #: 387

Folio #: 319

STREET & NUMBER

Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Easton

STATE

Maryland 21601

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

T-229

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Rich Bottom Farm is situated upon a knoll overlooking the lower farm and Choptank River beyond. It is a two part frame building composed of a one and one-half story, two bay section and a three bay two story section, built after the smaller part. The entire structure has been covered with aluminum siding. Only the south brick chimney shows on the gable. Another small chimney rises from the other gable now concealed by the taller portion of the house. One brick flue rises from the latter roof. There are two dormers on the east side of the small part and one on the west. There are no doors on the west, only on the east, which is concealed by a porch, partly enclosed on each end. The taller part of the building is late 19th century whereas the wing appears to be first half of the 19th century.

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rich Bottom Farm is significant architecturally because it is an example of a vernacular house constructed during the first half of the 19th century. In future studies of such buildings it will be an important dwelling to use as a comparison with other buildings of its form and period, especially those in the St. Michaels region.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

T-229

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

DATE

April, 1977

TELEPHONE

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



27 x 1.65

50% 229

T-229

Rich Bottom Farm



J. Betty 5/77